9-15-10

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Students spent a month in Paris, France studying the language. Valley Life »4

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los angeles valley college's

VALLEY STAR

the independent student newspaper

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ON WHEELS

Valley College Sheriff's Department show off the newest addition to the station on campus.

»3

SUSPENSION POSSIBLE FOR VALLEY STUDENT

After being taken out of an ASU Executive Council meeting last semester, Valley student Samuel Lara faces charges from LACCD which include threatening behavior.

LUCAS THOMPSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Valley College administrators will soon decide if it plans to suspend student Samuel Lara for his actions at an Associated Student Union executive meeting last spring.

Charges brought against Lara include Willful Disobedience (9803.10), Threatening Behavior (9803.24), and Violation of College Rules and Regulations (9803.11). The charges were followed by a recommendation from Associate Dean of Student Services, Annie Reed, of a suspension from all fall 2010 classes.

According to the notice of charges, Lara "interfered and disrupted the 5/25/10 Executive Council meeting of the ASU by acting in a threatening manner."

The ASU Executive Council meeting was held in order to vote on a resolution, created by ASU, on recent legislation passed in the state of Arizona. The passed resolution defined the ASU and Valley's standpoint against SB1070.

The resolution states, "The Associated Student Union calls upon all students, staff and faculty of Los Angeles Valley College and their affiliations to not participate in any business ventures and/or travel that will benefit the State of Arizona until these two discriminatory and terribly backward laws (SB1070 and HB2281) are repealed."

"You got to put things in perspective and realize the magnitude of the resolution," Arthur Minasyan said. "My job as the president and moderator of the meeting was that it didn't get out of hand, and that both sides get an equal amount of time to represent their case." Minasyan further stated, "Given the fact that I've had plenty of history with Lara and his lack of respect for rules and regulations set forth by the college and the district … I knew this was another attempt to draw attention to himself."

According to the former president, after several attempts of asking Lara to move from behind him, he called the sheriff's department in order to remove Lara from the meeting.

"My stance was that they should pass this [resolution] so that Arizona knows that we and Valley College students do not support this bill," Lara said. Lara held a sign that protested SB1070, and stood behind former ASU President, Athur

|See **SUSPENSION**, Page 2|



VARUGHAN CHAPANIAN | VALLEY STAR
Samuel Lara (pictured above)



VARUGHAN CHAPANIAN | VALLEY STAR

EXCITING THE CROWD
"Michael" displays his spray paint art at the Associated Student Union welcome carnival. The carnival, which was held last Thursday, also featured free food, games, and entertainment. The event was meant to introduce the current ASU members.

Man Arrested in Connection with Campus Assaults

Community College Bureau detectives arrest Valley Glen man for sexual battery and molestation of a minor in mid-August.

STEPHANIE COLMAN
STAFF WRITER

A 48-year-old Valley Glen man arrested and accused of a series of misdemeanor assaults that took place on or near campus over summer is awaiting trial on September 27 following a continuance. He is charged with two counts of sexual battery and one count of annoying or molesting a child, and remains in custody at the Van Nuys jail.

The suspect, arrested at his residence by Community College Bureau detectives, was also involved in at least one other known on-campus incident two years ago, and is under investigation for similar crimes in neighborhoods surrounding Pierce College.

Valley College President Susan Carleo expressed gratitude toward the officers involved in the detainment and arrest of the suspect, as well as the victims who came forward with information.

"This result was possible in part because the students who were confronted by the suspect made a report to the sheriff's office," she said.

Detectives are asking the campus community to continue to come forward with any information regarding similar incidents.

"Based on his pattern of behavior, I believe he has been doing this for some time," said Detective Richard Roberts of the Community College Bureau and lead investigating officer assigned to the case. "We want to remind everyone to look out for each other and that anything suspicious should be reported. Small bits of information can connect to other pieces and help make cases."

On August 12, deputies received a call from a woman identifying herself as a Valley student who was being harassed at the bus depot on Burbank Boulevard and Fulton Avenue by a man matching the description of the assailant from the summer assaults.

Valley Sheriff's Station Deputies Baker and Washington arrived and found the suspect harassing a second female victim at the location. He was detained, interviewed, photographed and released pending official case filing with the city attorney. He was later identified in a photo lineup by the previous victims, at which point an arrest warrant was issued, leading to his arrest on August 17.

According to Roberts, the earlier incidents involving the suspect took place in July. On July 17, sheriffs responded to a call about a Middle-Eastern man in his late 40s, on a bicycle, who was verbally harassing and had assaulted a young woman near the intersection of Burbank Boulevard and Ethel Avenue. On July 30, a similar call came in from a 23-year-old Valley student who had just been assaulted on campus in parking lot G by an older, Middle-Eastern man.

Roberts asks that anyone who has experienced or witnessed any similar incidents on or near campus contact him directly at (323) 669-7561, the Campus Sheriff's Office at (818) 778-5678 or a Valley faculty or staff member.

"We suspect there are more victims out there," he said. "We can take measures to provide a safer campus if we have knowledge of a problem. We need to work together to make the college experience fun and safe."

Changes For The Campus Bookstore

Unable to compete with off-site locations and prices online for textbooks, the campus bookstore is looking into the option of renting textbooks to students.

COURTNEY BASSLER
STAFF WRITER

With students going online to buy music on iTunes, renting movies through Netflix, and selling items on eBay, the bookstore on campus is feeling the pressure to compete with the dot-com industry.

Because of students deciding to buy their books from off-site locations or online, sales at the campus bookstore are down 30 percent and currently employed is only a quarter of the staff they had last year.

Second-year student, Dayton Aldrich only gets his books if a professor tells him he needs a book immediately.

"If I don't need the book right away, I'm going to get it online," said Aldrich.

Claudette Burns, manager of the bookstore, has been looking for ways for students to come into the campus store instead of visiting online sites, one way being the option to rent books instead of buying them.



SAMSON UBA | VALLEY STAR
BETTER BARGAIN - Students look in the bookstore to find new and used books.

"I would definitely rent books from the school store if they were cheaper than any place else. On top of that, I would only need the books for a certain amount of time, so it would work out. I wouldn't be stuck with them," student Rebecca Duran said.

However, four days before school was in session, Burns was told that the server was too old to implement the new renting program for the fall classes.

"Renting wasn't what we had anticipated," Burns said.

Burns had three options due to the technical difficulties: to shut down the bookstore for a week during the first week of school, buy a new server and shut down the bookstore for two weeks, or the choice to keep the bookstore the way it has been and move forward with the plan to have the option of renting books to students at a later time. Burns decided to go with the latter option of keeping the campus store the way it has been in the past.

Currently, because renting is not an option this semester students cannot rent out books through the bookstore Web site, LAVCBookstore.com. However, the foundation has been set and students can go to the Web site and click the option to rent textbooks in the right-hand corner. Then they are directed to an informational page and in the top left corner students can search for the book that he or she needs.

"It's a beginning," said Burns, "I'm hoping that in the spring semester renting will work out."

Manager Claudette Burns is always looking for ways to get students back into the bookstore on campus and is willing to take suggestions. You can contact her at bookstore@lavc.edu.

BREAKING NEWS

ASU

The Associated Student Union interviewed candidates for vacant positions yesterday in the executive council room.

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE



Cell Phone Apps

Get more information about your favorite new and upcoming phone apps.

These features and more can be found in full @ www.lavalleystar.com

THE LOW DOWN....

IF IT BLEEDS IT LEADS

Much ado about very little.

CRISTINA SERRATO



The events of September 11, 2001 forever changed the lives of millions of Americans and nine years later New Yorkers are up in arms over what is being called the "Ground Zero Mosque."

"I think people need to be more informed before they make decisions. You can't hold a whole community of people responsible for the actions of some crazy ones, not forever," said Encino resident and active temple participant Eliot Johansen.

The "Ground Zero Mosque" is actually Park 51,a planned Islamic Cultural Center located two blocks away from Ground Zero, in lower Manhattan. The cultural center includes an auditorium, a bookstore, fitness canter, performing arts theatre, childcare area and food court. It also has a prayer area planned that would accommodate up to 2,000 people. Originally named the "Cordoba House," the center is being planned by the Cordoba Initiative, a group determined to raise religious tolerance and remove the stigma of what many feel Muslims represent. The Cordoba Initiative has a goal to "teach away hate," and despite the backlash against them, the Cordoba Initiative founders, Fiesal Abdul Raul and his wife, Daisy Khan, remain determined to see Park 51 built.

"The words "Ground Zero Mosque" sound to me like a tabloid headline. Responsible journalists should think carefully about where terminology comes from and be on guard against perpetuating hatred. Ground Zero itself is now a building site for a developer who has not been in much of a hurry to build anything. The neighborhood around it is filled with all kinds of businesses, some of them a bit scandalous like strip clubs, most of them just restaurants and small shops. It is not a holy neighborhood by any stretch of the imagination," said Reverend Winnie Varghese of the St. Marks in-the-Bowery church in New York.

The battle over the so-called Ground Zero Mosque may be have begun due to "Islamaphobia," a word being used to describe the racial discrimination and profiling against Muslims since 9/11. Some feel that

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THE VALLEY STAR INFO & STAFF

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COLUMN

Continued from page 1

the media is to blame for Islamaphobia, which the media spreads hate for profit.

"High drama sells ad spaces and raises ad prices. The best way to increase ad revenue is to maximize the drama. The media is going where the money is, they're presenting information to heighten the controversy, and they pick the most controversial side of each argument, without choosing a side, in order to sell ad space.

Media has the power to manipulate, and great controversy equals great ad revenue. News is a business," said Valley professor and ABC technical manager Scott Merrifield.

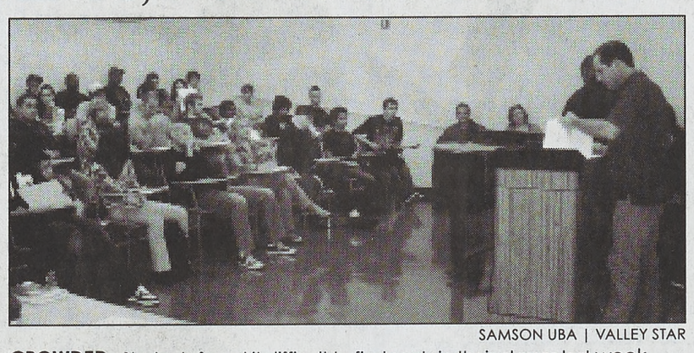
The "Ground Zero Mosque" is located within 200 feet of a strip club, a local pub and has a liquor store around the corner, but media hasn't made an issue out of those, so Americans leave them alone. If a strip club doesn't desecrate the area two blocks from Ground Zero, neither should a cultural learning center.

After all, knowledge is power. Americans have a duty not forget what happened on 9/11, but we also need to remember that we are the cultural melting pot and there is no room for Islamaphobia in America.

TOO MANY STUDENTS, NOT ENOUGH SPACE

The fall semester brings the now common swarm of desperate students trying to locate classes to add and seats to use.

COURTNEY BASSLER
STAFF WRITER



SAMSON UBA | VALLEY STAR

CROWDED- Students found it difficult to find seats in their classes last week.

The fall semester has started with a familiar tension for students finding it difficult to add classes that have available space. The students lucky enough to add or get on a waiting list are then faced with the burden of arriving to class extra early to ensure a seat.

Renard Ballard, psychology major at Valley College, said, "There is always six or seven extra people standing in the back of the class."

California has a crisis with classes and seats full at almost every community college or university. Attempts to find classes at alternative community colleges such as Pierce and Los Angeles Mission are unsuccessful because they are facing similar spacing issues.

Before the spring semester ended many classes for the fall were already full or quickly filling up. Students had no other alternative but to try to add classes on the first day. Students from universities could be found trying to pick up units at community colleges.

History professor at Valley, Abraham Hoffman, said, "Of course I believe the classes are overcrowded …" "No one can predict who or how many students are going to drop a class. So instructors must keep the limit at 50 since there is no room for more than that number in the classroom."

In recent semesters, the first weeks have begun with the same problem of too many students and not enough space.

Valley has 19,726 students as of September 5 according to Michelle Fowles, Dean of Research and Planning. Dr. Fowles suggested that Valley is at capacity and the student headcount is similar to last semester.

"Our effort centers on maximizing our ability to serve students," said Dean of Enrollment Services Florentino Manzano. "The college sets limits to each class based on seating capacity and contractual obligations … this is a difficult time. Demand for space is high; however, resources are very limited."

The campus should become less hectic after a couple weeks when students drop the classes that didn't work out. Until then, you can only hope for a seat upon arriving to your next class.

"Being a couple of minutes early isn't enough," said Valley student Karley Gomez. "The classes are crowded with students and there aren't many seats."

SUSPENSION

Continued from page 1

Minasyan, at the beginning of the meeting. According to Minasyan he asked Lara several times to move from behind him in order to see everyone present at the meeting.

Lara claims that he in no way displayed any threatening actions in the meeting or toward Minasyan, and furthermore feels there were no restrictions on where he could stand during the executive council meeting.

"I knew in my head I could stand wherever I want, so I just stood there," Lara said. "It was obvious that I can stand there, but it's just a power trip, it's a power issue, you don't want people standing behind you because it's really intimidating because its going be a heated debate obviously, because there some of the ASU people on the council that didn't want this to pass (and) didn't even want it on the table."

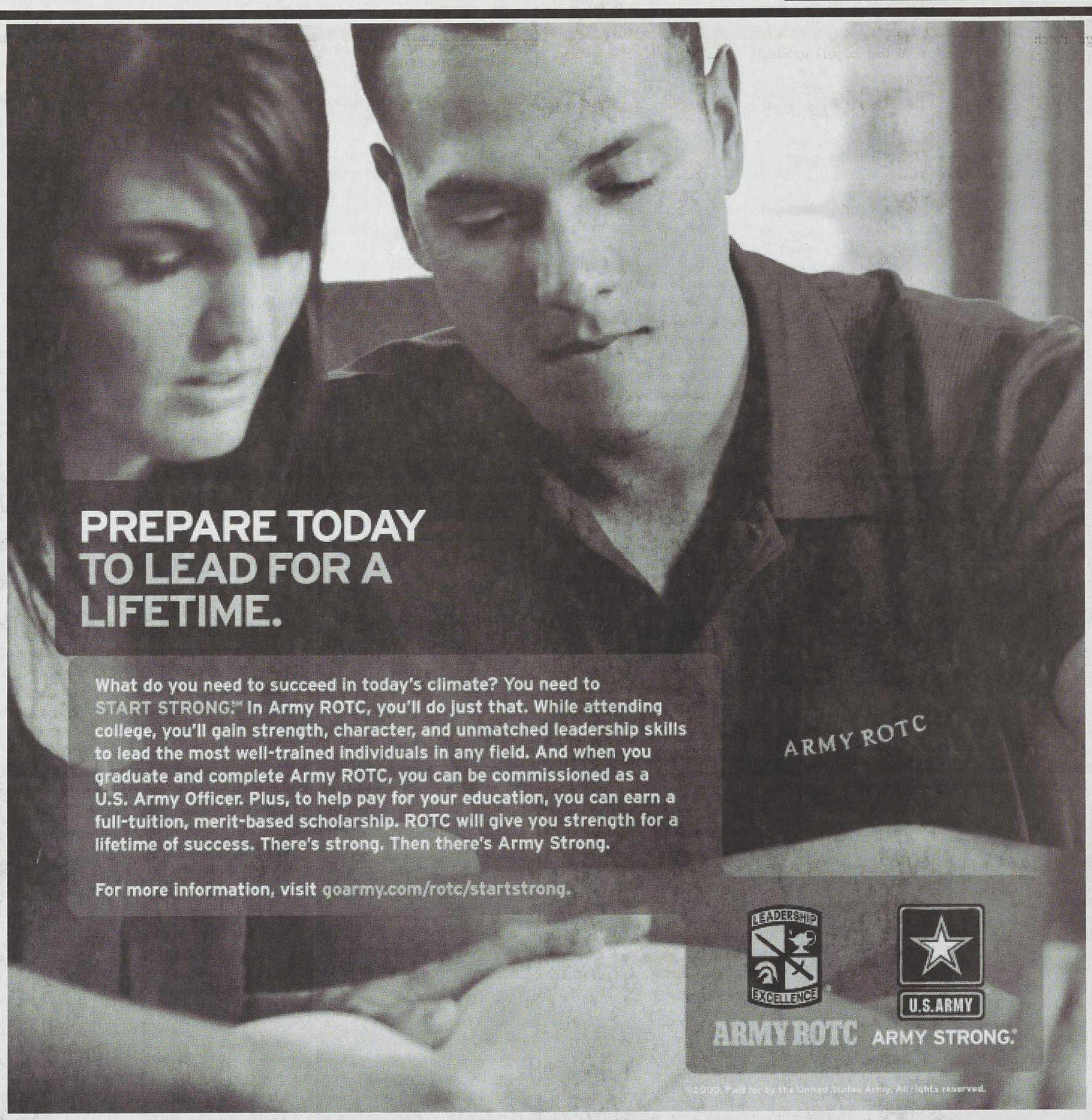
Valley President Sue Carleo refrained from giving any specific details, but said,

"Student privacy rights prevent me from commenting on a specific case, but each student who enrolls at LAVC is expected to follow the student code of conduct," she said. "All students are entitled to a positive learning environment and the discipline process is how we address violations of the code of conduct. I am willing to listen to any student when he or she has followed all the steps in the discipline process and the decision has risen to my level."

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CALIFORNIA SACKS BAG BAN

Single-use bags live on despite heavy environmental toll on the environment.

STEPHANIE COLMAN
STAFF WRITER

California lawmakers recently denied a proposed bill seeking to ban single-use plastic bags. AB 1998 was poised to put California at the forefront of the bag ban, a move experts speculate would have had a domino effect across the country. Unfortunately, the bill was rejected 21-14.

It's easy to see the negative effects of poorly managed plastic bags. Walk pretty much anywhere in the greater Los Angeles area and you'll find dozens of these urban tumbleweeds dirtying our campus, streets, parks and ocean. Californians use 19 billion plastic bags each year, of which, only about 5 percent are formally recycled.

The United Nations Environmental Program estimated that in 2006, every square mile of ocean contained 46,000 pieces of plastic. Studies show that bags kill 1 million seabirds and 100,000 other marine animals annually. The problem is so bad that a literal island of garbage—consisting mostly of plastic—exists in the Northern Pacific Ocean. Known as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, it's twice the size of Texas and should serve as a neon reminder that it's time to step up and support simple lifestyle changes that make us good stewards of the environment.

Opponents complained the ban would unfairly regulate personal choice, eliminate California-based jobs and effectively result in a hidden tax on groceries. Californians often need a little regulatory help when it comes to making better choices. Despite the known, life-threatening risks of not wearing seatbelts or texting while driving, many residents of the Golden State weren't persuaded to implement change until specific laws took effect.

As for eliminating jobs, plastic bag manufacturers must simply switch to producing thicker, heavier duty, reusable bags. Do reusable bags cost more to make? Yes. Will merchants feel the need to raise product prices a few cents to help off-set the cost? Most likely. But consider this: At present, it costs the state more than $25 million to collect and transport plastic bag litter to landfills. Or, that it takes two billion barrels of oil to produce California's annual bag supply. Reducing our dependency on single-use plastic bags would not only be infinitely better for the planet, it might even positively impact our dependence on crude oil, and ultimately, gasoline prices.

Whether or not it's required by law, it's time we put environmental responsibility over personal convenience and endeavor to lessen our dependence on single-use plastic bags.

IT WAS SOMETHING SANTAYANA SAID

The only mission accomplished was the polishing off of American spirits.

KELLY DAVIS
OPINION EDITOR

It was March 19, 2003 and I was stranded by a blizzard in a truck stop motel outside of Colorado. What seemed like the beginning of the end was plastered non-stop on every television station and the only solace I had was the comfort of my older sister and a bottle of whiskey. That bottle and many others would prove to be the crutch that got me through the next few years of what would come.

Former President George W. Bush had declared war on Iraq and night-vision video footage of bombs exploding all over the city of Baghdad would prove to haunt me for the next seven years. The feeling I had was similar to that feeling so many of us had seeing footage of the planes flying into the Twin Towers and their subsequent collapse. Growing up, I had always been taught that war was only acceptable when it was the last possible resort and all other preventative measures had been exhausted. The war in Iraq was far from acceptable on so many levels.

Apparently Bush had been guzzling from the same bottle I was because he entered the Iraq war with a "bottoms up, drunken frat boy out for revenge" approach. And what's worse is that he was surrounded by an Administration of "yes men" who seemed to react with an all too typical response to a belligerent drunk who has taken things to far one more time. Now, now, poor Georgie has had just a little too much to drink. Let's not upset him. Just let him sober up and he'll be okay. Except poor Georgie never did sober up and the American people and our beloved sons and daughters in the armed forces suffered because of it.

For a war that was so wrong to start to begin with, it's a good thing it only lasted a little over a month. When Bush declared war, he said that no outcome but victory would be accepted. But victory seemed to evade us when Bush gave his infamous "Mission Accomplished" speech saying, "Operation Iraqi Freedom was carried out with a combination of precision, and speed, and boldness the enemy did not expect." However, the Bush Administration's delusion of victory would be easier to digest had the combat actually ended then.

It's over seven years, hundreds of billions of dollars, 4,416 American lives and 31,000 injuries later and President Obama recently had to relay to the American people a resonant message, "the American combat mission in Iraq has ended." Let's hope for the sake of those willing to fight for this country that this reckless war has truly ended this time. The Iraqi War lasted longer than WWII and yet the accomplishments are still unclear. Although, we really shouldn't expect to have accomplished much from a war in which the true agenda was never fully disclosed.

Troops leaving Iraq is more footnote than "historical."

J.P. SPENCE
MANAGING EDITOR

The 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team entered Kuwait at approximately 1:30 a.m., August 18, carrying the last of the 14,000 U.S. combat forces in Iraq.

While most of the general public may have, albeit unknowingly, celebrated this as the end of the war effort in Iraq and ripped the media and government for not joining in, there is a bigger picture.

U.S. State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley stated that the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom is a "historic moment," but not the end of the U.S. mission in Iraq. Crowley has made clear, "We have a long-term commitment to Iraq."

"Historic moment" may be an overstatement, but kudos for fighting the urge to indulge in premature celebration with a big banner and the president peacocking in a fighter jumpsuit as some have done before.

American presence is diminished but not gone. Troops still await departure, and close to 50,000 will stay another year in what is designated as a noncombat role. They will carry weapons to defend themselves and accompany--if asked--Iraqi troops on missions, which they will. Special Forces will continue to help Iraqis hunt for terrorists and there is no specific number for them.

A negotiated agreement between the United States and Iraq during the administration of former President George W. Bush declares all U.S. troops to leave Iraq by Dec. 31, 2011. This is also considering we don't have any "altercations" with Afghanistan by then. In reality, celebration wouldn't be for another year and a half if at all.

There is some modesty in how the Obama Administration has handled the situation, but "historic moment" is still considerable hyperbole. You don't go 90 percent in accomplishing anything and call that moment historical. Most people would wait for the last ten, then plant their flag. The people who stop at 90 percent include British Petroleum and the crazy minister who wanted to burn the Koran but backed out.

Here's a "historical" moment.

According to the Los Angeles Times, 52 Marines committed suicide in 2009, compared with 42 in 2008. The 2009 toll is the highest since record keeping began, giving the Marine Corps the horrific distinction of having the highest rate of suicide of any U.S. military service.

The Marines have instituted a new policy of watching fellow Marines for signs of depression. On the heels of this information and less than a year removed from the tragic Fort Hood shootings, the buddy system is a far cry from what's needed.

Returning the troops home is important, but proper psychological treatment for those troops and for those still abroad is paramount. If we are able to bring home our troops and have them properly adjusted to everyday life as we've forgotten to do for the last 40 years, that would be "historical."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Subject: Anyone for tennis?
Name: Alfonso P. Pelayo Jr.
Letter: Dear Editor,

I didn't think that the parking situation at LAVC could get any worse. I was wrong. Why in the world would LAVC decide it was a good idea to demolish half of parking lot "G" along Burbank Bl. to build tennis courts? parking is useful for all while tennis courts are beneficial for a tiny minority of the student body.

This has got to be the most uninteligent choices by the decision makers at LAVC or the Community College District. On the first day of the fall semester I arrived an hour before my scheduled class. Parking was nowhere to be found. After circling around for nearly 30 minutes. I finally gave up and drove north into a residential neighborhood about 3/4 mile away to park and walked to my class.

I do hope that the administrators realize their glaring lack of judgement in this matter.



SAMSON UBA | VALLEY STAR
OVERCROWDED - Valley College parking attendant informs student drivers that there is no parking available in Lot A.

STUDENTS, YOUR CHARIOTS HAVE ARRIVED

Swing low sweet chariot, Paul Blart is going to carry Valley home...

JOSHUA LAWRENCE
STAFF WRITER

If you are injured on campus, they'll be the first to respond. The new chariot-riding officers have a quick way around school, but their usefulness is questionable at best.

According to Officer Romero of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the chariots, or "T3s" after their manufacturer T3 Motion, were purchased in order to help move around. "They're mainly for ease of maneuverability and the ability to move quickly around campus. They definitely help us get to the harder to reach places where our patrol cars can't reach, in between poles and that sort of thing," said Romero.

Officer Romero claimed to be unaware of where the money came from in order to purchase these chariots. However, he did say that two of them were purchased for the entire Los Angeles Community College District. "We rotate them through the colleges. We usually have one here and then the other is used farther south in the community college district," said Romero.

Valley College students aren't quite convinced of their usefulness and are questioning if the money to purchase them was well spent. Peter Mardini, a Valley student who saw the chariots in action said, "The T3 officer was the first to arrive on scene; however, after he arrived, he could not do anything to help the situation and he had to wait for back up to arrive."

Natalie Defaz, a third-year student at Valley said, "They're supposed to be there for students' safety, and I go to school at night, which is more dangerous than daytime on our poorly lit campus. I am appalled I have not seen any at night and it is very unsettling and in that case seems to be a waste of money."

But not to worry, readers, the chariots only cost between $4,000 and $5,000 each and, thankfully, only two of them were purchased, a total of roughly $10,000. And then there's their maintenance costs. All the sheriff's department has to do is hook up the T3's custom trailer to the back of a gas-guzzling pick-up truck and haul it down to Eastern Street in East Los Angeles, nothing too far out of the way.

If the chariot-riding officers have to wait for backup to be effective and students aren't seeing them patrolling the campus at night, one must consider the idea that they are not being used to their full potential. Perhaps donating the "extra" $10,000 to Valley so we could repave the worn out streets that run through our campus would have been a better and more effective use for the money.

VALLEY VIEW | HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE U.S. TROOPS BEING MOVED OUT OF IRAQ?


"The war is doing nothing but messing up their mind. I love the fact that they're back."
-TRAYVONNA AYON
PARALEGAL STUDIES


"I'm cool with Obama keeping his promise."
-JEROME ROGERS
COMPUTER SCIENCE


"It's almost like you have a child that's born and you just say 'okay fend on your own now.'"
-JACOB L. FRANCESMITH
BUSINESS


""The fact that we started this, makes me think that we should finish it in a good way."
-PROF AMADEO W. QUILICI
ESL AND SPEECH

THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID ...

HIDE YOUR KIDS, HIDE YOUR WIFE

Valley students on the lookout, he's snatching your people up.

KELLY DAVIS



As I pseudo-sprint to my car following my evening classes, I desperately try to recall all the self-defense techniques I was sure would make me feel confident in any situation.

Only I never took into account that if I were ever attacked, it most likely would not be by the 110 pound feisty brunette who was a willing participant in the regular ass-kicking sessions where I honed my razor-sharp skills.

It dawns on me that perhaps I ought to have thought twice about leaving my nunchuks in the trunk of my car, or that maybe it really was a good idea to strap a machete to my hip before entering the jungle that Valley College inhabits.

All it takes is a slight rustle in the shadows and I find myself tightening my grip upon my brass knuckles, ready to take out that bike riding campus pervert who spent the summer harassing and molesting students on Valley's campus.

Then I hear the whirl of the electric scooter that our trusty campus police are putzing around on and I can exhale. My chariot has arrived. Never fear, Paul Blart is here to observe and report on the campus danger. Except don't expect Officer Blart to actually protect you in a moment of danger because he has to wait for backup to arrive.

As violence on and around campus increases, Valley students should be taking every precaution to best defend themselves. Sitting around naively waiting for Hit Girl to drop in and massacre all the evil dangers that are lurking beyond the shadows is just plain irresponsible.

And frankly, it's asking for a bit much. Kind of like asking campus administrators to improve the lighting and parking situation, thus improving campus safety would be asking for a bit much.

The solution is even simpler than that. In the words of Antoine Dodson, all we need to do is "hide your kids, hide your wife, hide your kids, hide your wife."

But should you find yourself alone, unarmed on campus and targeted by the boogieman, have no fear, a plastic bag is always near. Simply snatch up the nearest single-use shopping bag and place it over your attacker's head until they pass out.

Not only will you be doing your part to improve campus safety, you're also greening the planet.

Oh and by the way, if you're a 110 pound spitfire who wants to try to attack me, bring it on. I'm ready for you and I will take you out. So you can run and tell that homeboy.

E-mail Kelly Davis at
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GOT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR?

Letters to the editor can be sent to:
editor@lavalleystar.com
or submitted online at
www.lavalleystar.com.
Letters must be limited to 300 words and may be edited for content. Full name and contact information must be supplied in order for letters to be printed. Send by Thursday for the following week's issue.

LAVC Events

September
Wednesday, 15th
1pm - 2pm
Fall 2010 Opening of Free Concert Wednesdays
LAVC Faculty/ Alumni Variety Show
M106-Free
Concert Hotline:
818-778-5633

Wednesday, 22nd
1pm - 2pm
Free Concert Wednesdays
Songs and Duets from Opera and Musical Theatre
M-106-Free
Concert Hotline:
818-778-5633

Saturday, 25th
8pm - 10pm
LAVC Music Dept. Concert Series
American Guitar Society International Concert Series
M-106
$20 gen./ $15 AGS members/ $10 students and seniors
Tickets available through BrownPaperTickets.com

Wednesday, 29th
1pm - 2pm
Free Concert Wednesdays sponsored by the LAVC Music Dept.
An open rehearsal with the Kadima String Quartet
M-106-Free
Concert Hotline:
818-778-5633

October
Wednesday, 6th
1pm - 2pm
Duo Images
Music for Percussion and Piano
Artashes Sinanyan, percussion; Zhanna Sinanyan, piano
Performing music of Debussy, Prokofiev, Khachaturian, Laginha, and more.
M106-Free
Concert Hotline:
818-778-5633

! THINK TRANSFER

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, 15th
UC TAG Workshop
@ 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, 16th
CSUN Rep
@ 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

UC TAG Workshop
@ 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Monday, 20th
UCSB Rep
@ 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

UC TAG Workshops
@ 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. &
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 21st
CSULA Rep
@ 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

UC TAG Workshop
@ 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, 30th
Fall 2011 UC transfer Admission Guarantees (TAGS) due.
Seven UC Campuses guarantee admission to community college students who meet specific requirements:
UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Merced, UC Riverside, UC San Diego, UC Santa Barbara and UC Santa Cruz
Apply online:
http://uctransfer.universityofcalifornia.edu/tag

All events held in the Career/Transfer Center (Administration 126) unless otherwise indicated.

For Sign-up and further information

A BON VOYAGE TO PARIS

Valley students spend summer in Paris along with getting transferable units.

COURTNEY BASSLER
STAFF WRITER

This summer, 27 Valley College students traveled with Professor Merrill to Paris, France through the school's Study Abroad Program. Merrill started taking students overseas during the summer of 2003 and continues to do so every year. This year the Summer in France program is still being offered.

Most Valley students would expect a program like this if one were to attend a four-year school. "This year we are planning to go to the south of France to Montpellier," said Merrill. Merrill switches off every year between Montpellier and Paris institutions.

When asked about attending the trip, "It would be optimal for students to have taken French I and French II for a richer experience," said Merrill. "Anyone is welcome to attend; there is also a beginner course as well."

Through the European Studies Association, students at Valley were taught by local "… California teachers from CSU's and community colleges," explained Merrill. "Another option that students had, which was more expensive, was to study at The Institut Catholique de Paris with local Parisian teachers."

"This was my favorite trip. The ESA colleagues are all about making sure the students get what they want; the teachers aren't there just to make a buck," Merrill added.

Students who are 18 years or older, who are interested in attending or would like more information about the Summer in France program, should e-mail Professor Merrill at merrildl@lavc.edu for more information or attend the informational meetings, which begin in December, throughout the school year. More information can also be found at www.lavc.edu/montpellier.



PAULINA RIOS | SPECIAL TO THE STAR

BONJOUR DE PARIS - Professor Merill poses with her students in Paris, France during the Study Abroad Program .

BUDGET CUTS AFFECT CHILD CARE ON CAMPUS

Affordable and convenient child care for student-parents is suffering due to lack of funds.

JAVIERA INFANTE
STAFF WRITER

California budget cuts have been affecting Valley College students in more than just one way. On top of class shortages, the rise of book prices and lower unemployment support, child care funding cuts have impacted many student-parents who are responsible for their children's well-being while they are in school.

The newly renovated Child Development Center at Valley is their new solution. Opened just nine weeks ago, the center offers a convenient alternative, as it is located in the northeast corner of school grounds on Oxnard Street and Ethel Avenue.

"He's literally in the same place I am and that gives me piece of mind," commented Valley student and mom, Zanovia Price, referring to her pre-school-aged son who's enrolled at the center.

The California July Budget Agreement cut funding to counties for employment and child care by more than $370 million in 2009-2010, according to the California Budget Project website (www.cbp.org).

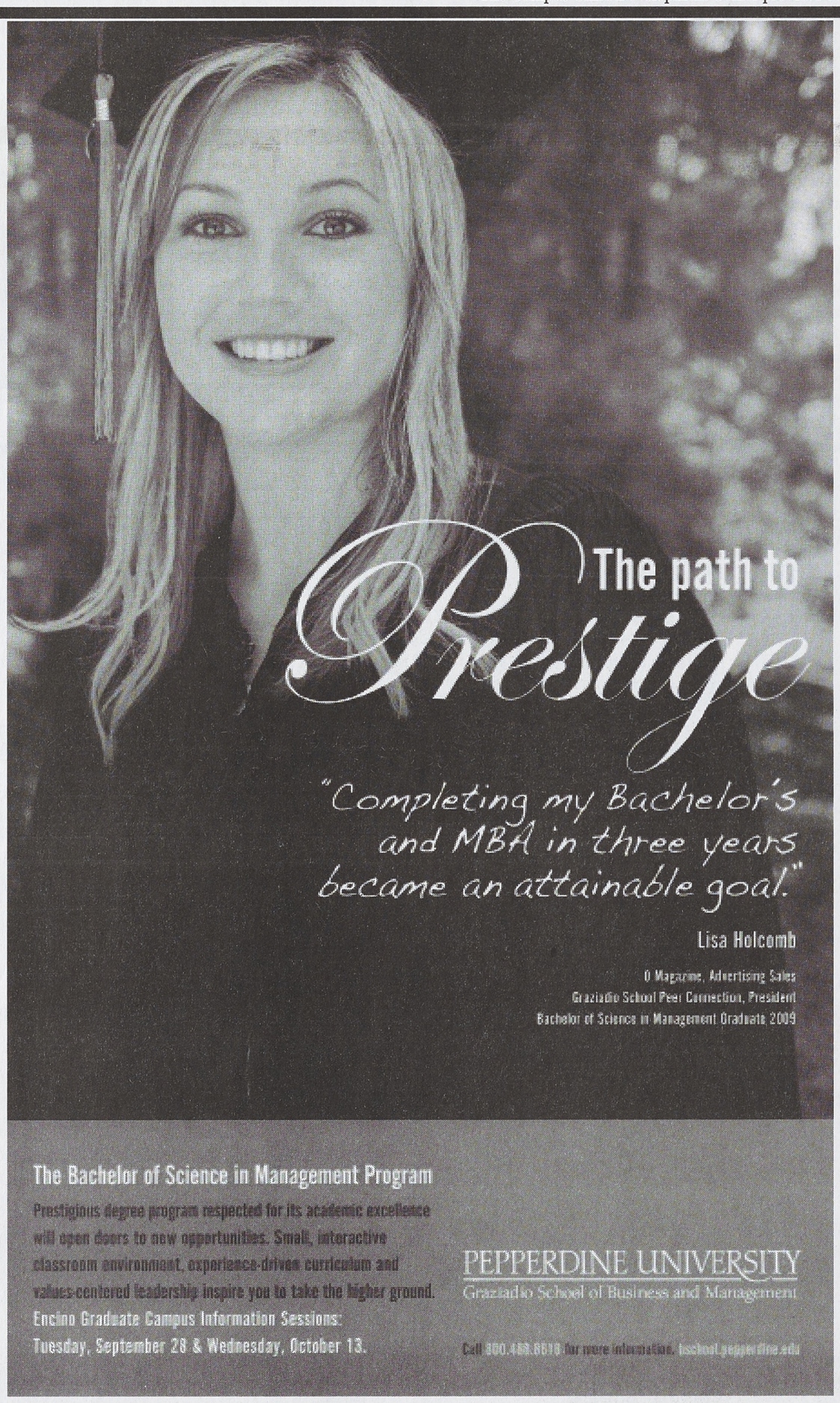
Myrna Lopez, a Valley student and mother to 3-year-old Janelle says, "The child care center where my girl attended wasn't given a renovation of their state-funded contract and they were going to start charging me $425 per month. I can't afford that."

The Campus Child Development Center provides developmentally appropriate programs for the children of students, staff, faculty, and the community. Children from ages three to 13 attend the center and a healthy menu of breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks are provided to all children enrolled at no cost to the enrolling family.

"Applications are accepted continuously throughout the year and fees are on a sliding scale anywhere from $0 to $5 per hour," says the center director Terry Teplin.

The new building offers more room for children to play in, more technological resources such as computer labs, and a spacious new cafeteria for children to enjoy their meals in.

Now student-parents know they can look forward to coming to Valley knowing that it can provide affordable child care, that they're children will be well taken care of, and most importantly, be as close to them as they can be.



DEAD ON ARRIVAL

The greatest comedies are the ones that aren't intentionally funny.

J.P. SPENCE
MANAGING EDITOR

Imagine this executive meeting.

Boss Man: Who's got ideas that I can pawn off as my own, Don Draper style.

Random Lackey: I do, sir. Since the industry has started adapting comic books that haven't even been released yet, let's adapt another video game instead.

Boss Man: I take it that you didn't see "Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time" much like the rest of the general public.

Random Lackey: That's what we'll do differently. We'll take names that carry recognition within the coveted 18- to 30-year-old male demographic but create a story all our own without any ties to the franchise we claim to be a part of.

Boss Man: For example, we'd make a movie and call it Super Mario Bros., and instead of an Italian plumber named Mario and brother Luigi who go through the Mushroom Kingdom to save Princess Peach we'll have a janitor named Michael who lives with his brother Lucas, who is in recovery, and they're searching for an Arby's instead of a White Castle.

Random Lackey: Exactly! We'll call this film "Resident Evil: Afterlife," bring back Milla Jovovich, even though we kind of killed her in the last three films, bring back Ali Larter because sex sells, and tell a story that has nothing to do with the Resident Evil canon that somehow sets up yet another sequel. Scratch that, we'll drop the storyline all together for 3D graphics and hope that no one notices.

Boss Man: Bazinga! Let's get this sucker green-lit. I smell Razzies!!!

What is commendable about "Resident Evil: Afterlife" is that the executives and director Paul W.S. Anderson haven't strayed from their bottom line … err, vision.

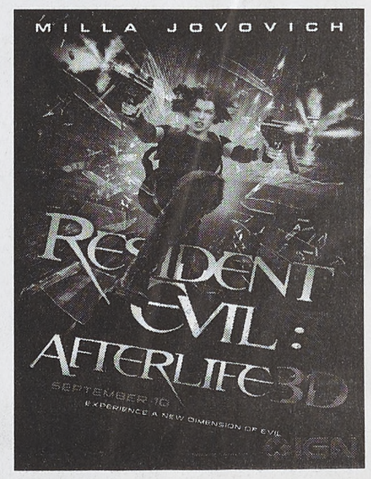
Anderson is credited as writer, producer and director but there are no services rendered.

The Resident Evil series has never been known to have any redeeming qualities but it's hard not to lambast a film that almost intentionally eschews any story for 3D graphics, and then fail to deliver the goods on the one thing moviegoers are paying for.

"Afterlife" picks up where "Resident Evil: Extinction" left off with zombie killer Alice (Jovovich) looking for any signs of human life. After no luck in Alaska (shocking) Alice lands in Los Angeles where she meets a handful of survivors who managed to get picked off one by one by their own stupidity until the three main characters end up on a ship that is about to be bombarded by the evil Umbrella Corporation. Sorry for the spoiler alert, but if you're going to see the film, it's not for the story.

Jovovich has the acting depth of a Petri dish and has certainly passed Keanu Reeves as master of the lifeless deadpan quip. If you thought "I Know Kung Fu" was bad, wait until you hear "That is no way to treat a lady." The razzie nomination is not a big deal for Jovovich. It's not her first and certainly not her last.

This film would be the very definition of style over substance if there were any style to it. Proceed with caution.



ASU CARNIVAL WELCOMES STUDENTS TO CAMPUS

ASU funds a carnival during welcome week to introduce themselves and entertain students.

JAVIERA INFANTE
STAFF WRITER

As students made their way to the colorful and crowded quad Thursday on Welcome Week Day, the Associate Student Union was finishing prepping everything for all new and returning Valley students to enjoy their first couple weeks of classes this Fall 2010 with a carnival.

"This is a great beginning of the semester. ASU has great ideas. I've never seen so many games at one event," praised Jose Estrada, former Tau Alpha Epsilon president.

It was the first time that ASU held such an innovative and dynamic welcome week event. The carnival provided free hot dogs, cotton candy, popped corn, bottled water, prizes and typical carnival games such as a dunk tank, a giant inflatable hoop shot and darts game, and a knock-over pins game.

"I think it's totally cool," said Marcel Lloyd, one of the enthusiastic students who attended the carnival.

A group of the cheerleading squad wearing their newly designed olive green, white and gold uniforms added to the Monarch pride felt on campus.

"[Events like these] help a lot to draw people to participate and have more school pride," commented a new addition to the cheerleading squad, Karim Coleman.

Around noon, the carnival reached its peak attendance. Students were lined up at the hoop shot game, others throwing a baseball to knock over the pins and standing in line to get their hot dogs, grilled right there and then. The cotton candy was a popular treat that had everyone licking their fingers and asking for more.

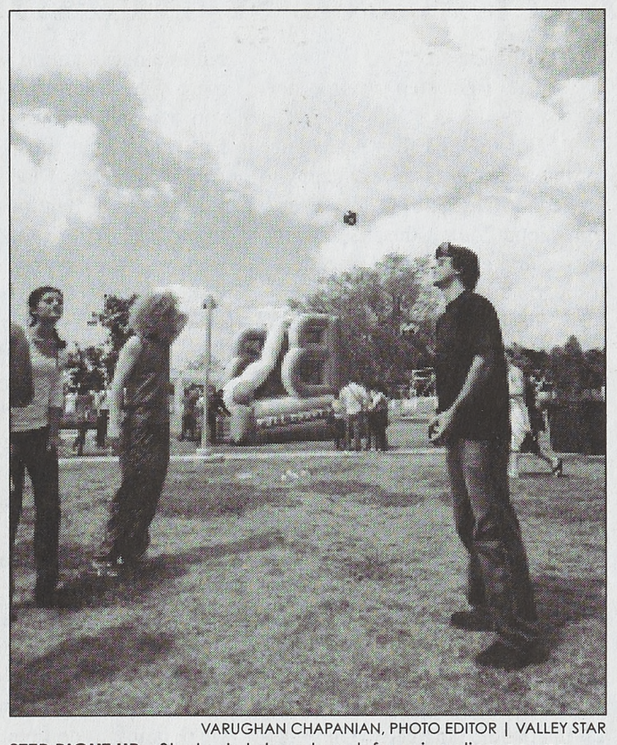
Kazooba "Ronnie" Kawamara, Associated Student Union vice president, said, "For all those students who paid their ASU fee, it is a way to celebrate a new school year. There's no better way to do it than with games and free food. [This carnival gives the opportunity] to learn from one other and promote student activity on campus."

"Bring everyone together the first week of school is the least thing we can do." added Hannah Matesovyan, ASU president. I don't know where one quote ends and another begins. This needs clarification, and needs to be done ASAP so it can print.

The carnival premiere wasn't that easy to get approved. It took us a month to complete the event planning and the hardest thing to get approved was the dunk tank.

"It was all worth it," says Kazooba. Again…where does the quote begin?

Leaving students with the positivism to continue on the semester, the carnival turned out a success and an ice-breaking social meeting point, bringing students together in school spirit and enthusiasm to succeed this new academic year.



VARUGHAN CHAPANIAN, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR
STEP RIGHT UP - Students take a break from juggling course loads to enjoy the ASU's Welcome Day activities.

THE HUNGER GAMES LEAVES READERS HUNGRY FOR MORE

Suzanne Collins' "Hunger Games" trilogy is a must-read for teens and adults.

DAVID MOTTE
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

Young-adult novels certainly seem to have reached their peak in quality over the last several years. But amidst the horny teenage vampires and nerdy adolescent wizards, Suzanne Collins' "The Hunger Games" trilogy introduces a refreshing dystopian twist on the acne-cream world of the teen-read phenomenon.

"The Hunger Games" is a post-apocalyptic tale set in the ruins of what used to be North America, now known as Panem, consisting of the cruel and decadent city of Capitol surrounded by 13 districts. After an attempted uprising by the districts, District 13 was destroyed and every year the 12 remaining districts are forced to send one boy and one girl between the ages of 12 and 18—chosen by lottery--into a gladiatorial fight to the death called the Hunger Games. Televised for all to see, the games end with one survivor.

The story follows 16-year-old, Katniss Everdeen, an avid hunter and gatherer from District 12 into the games as she fights for survival against the 23 other tributes. As the number of contenders diminishes, Katniss develops a bond with Peeta Mellark, the boy tribute from her own district. When romance blooms, Katniss is torn between saving her own life and protecting Peeta, who lacks the necessary skills to stay alive.

Praised by both Stephen King and "Twilight" author Stephenie Meyer, Suzanne Collins engrosses the reader with a thrilling blend of suspense, science fiction, and romance unlike anything previously published by Scholastic Press. Despite being aimed at young adults, "The Hunger Games" trilogy's satirical commentary and violent tendencies are an obvious attempt at reeling in a more mature audience.

"The Hunger Games" sequel, "Catching Fire," and the final installment called "The Mockingjay" are equally as addictive as their predecessor and bring to mind such dystopian masterpieces as "Brave New World" and "1984." For those of you who find it hard to make time for a leisurely read between school and work, fear not for a feature film version is in development by Lions Gate Studios and will hopefully be released sometime next year.



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TWO CENTS FROM SPENCE

MAKING THE GRADE

Emma Stone shares her thoughts on the making of "Easy A."

J.P. SPENCE



The LA Valley Star recently had an opportunity to catch up with Emma Stone, star of "Superbad," "Zombieland," and the upcoming "Easy A."

Did you have any experiences in high school that are similar to that of your character in the film or were there any particular traits that you felt you kind of had in common with the character?

As far as personality goes, I think she and I are pretty eerily similar in a lot of ways. That might be one of the reasons I responded so quickly to her when I read the script. I could kind of understand her viewpoint and where she was coming from and what it was like to have a family like that because I have really open, straight parents that we talk about everything. So I liked seeing that kind of cool relationship she had with her family. Yes, I feel like we have a lot in common personality-wise, but I did not have her high school experience.

My favorite scenes were whenever you were with your parents the easiness that you had in communicating with them and just how the dialogue flowed. How much of those scenes were improv compared to what was scripted?

I would say a pretty fair amount of those scenes just because Stanley and Patty are so great with improv. Olive talked so much that a lot of those words were on the page for her. I felt like I was doing a little much if I added too much improv to Olive, but they were so fantastic with adlibbing. So, a lot of their dialogue was improv.

Hester Prynne from the Scarlet Letter is one of the most memorable characters of English literature. I was just wondering after looking at the movie, what would Hester think of Olive and how Olive dealt with her own situation in the 21st century?

Well, it's hard for me to tell you what Hester would have thought. It's just like we say in the movie, Hester decided to be silent about what was going on, and Olive is wildly outspoken and lying the entire time as well. Olive doesn't actually sleep with any of these people. It's kind of almost the reverse problem in a way, even though they're both being ostracized. So, it's very interesting

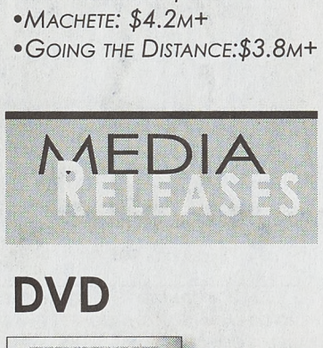
I think a big part of the Scarlet Letter's influence is in that idea where when you're young and you read something or you watch something, you kind of tend to apply it to your life. The first time you read a book that you really, really loved and you felt like you were that character or that character—finally, someone understood you. I think since she's reading that in class and she sees these kind of eerie similarities, I think it almost pushes her to go further with it because she's reading the book, but I don't know that it's necessarily an update of that story because their stories are so different to me.



E-mail J.P. Spence at
j.spence@lavalleystar.com
Send general comments to
valleystar@lavalleystar.com

@THE MOVIES

OPENING THIS WEEKEND



EASY A

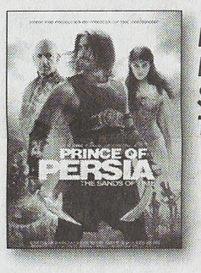
EMMA STONE
STANLEY TUCCI
AMANDA BYNES
THOMAS HAYDEN

TOP 5 BOX OFFICE:

- *Resident Evil:Afterlife*: $27.7M+
- *Takers*: $6.1M+
- *The American*: $5.9M+
- *Machete*: $4.2M+
- *Going the Distance*:$3.8M+

MEDIA RELEASES

DVD



PRINCE OF PERSIA: THE SANDS OF TIME

ALSO AVAILABLE:

- *"Glee": Season 1*
- *Letters to Juliet*
- *"Fringe": Season 2*
- *Just Wright*

SONGS TOP DOWNLOADS



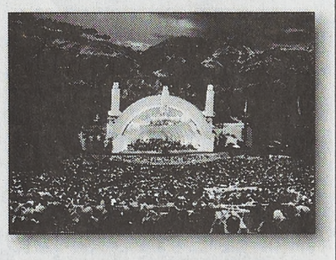
INTERPOL

Interpol

ALSO:

- *Disturbed - Asylum*
- *Jenny and Johnny - I'm Having fun now*
- *Heart - Red Velvet Car*
- *The Goo Goo Dolls - Something For The Rest Of Us*

CONCERTS & THEATRE



- *The Walkmen: Sept. 15 The Music Box*
- *Primus: Sept. 16-17 Club Nokia*
- *The Melvins: Sept. 17 Downtown Brewing Co.*
- *Tower Of Power: Sept. 17 LA County Fair*
- *Jack FM- Jack's 5th Show: Sept. 18 Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre*
- *Reel Big Fish: Sept. 18 Grove of Anaheim*
- *Frankie Avalon: Sept. 18 California Theatre Of The Perfoming Arts*

REIGNING IN A NEW SEASON

Glendale can keep the "Hang Dynasty," because Valley welcomes in the Reign of Hang.

CRISTINA SERRATO
STAFF WRITER

Valley College women's basketball welcomes the upcoming season with new faces, talent, and a chance at redemption under newly appointed Head Coach Monica Hang.

"I think this year will be better, we have a stronger team and everyone is trying hard to do better than last year," said sophomore shooting guard Porcha Davis.

Last year's women's basketball season fizzled to an end for the Monarchs after a 60-58 loss against the Santa Monica College Corsairs, which crushed all hope for a playoff berth. The Monarchs ended their '09 season with nine wins and 16 losses. After the previous year of losses, the Monarchs sought ways to improve in the 2010 season.

The first step was a new coach.

"Coming to Valley is a change for the better and I'm very happy to be here," Hang said. "I love everything about Valley, the students, my bosses and co-workers, everything. It's a good vibe here."

Coach Hang is not new to basketball. She played varsity basketball for Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra, where she led her team to three consecutive state championships and won several awards, including Almont League MVP. After high school Hang earned an associate degree from Ventura College, and then transferred to Cumberland College in Kentucky on a full athletic scholarship. After she received a bachelor's degree in movement and leisure studies from Cumberland, Hang earned her master's degree in physical education at California State University in 2006.

"[Coach Hang] is enthusiastic, organized, full of energy, and is a delight to have not only as a coach but as a new addition to our department. She's excited to have the job and we look forward to having her here for a long time," said Valley Athletic Director Diedra Stark.

Hang is not new to coaching, either. After spending the last five years coaching at Glendale Community College, her time as a coach earned the title of "The Hang Dynasty." She developed a rigorous, yet successful, coaching program that helped Glendale go to the Western State Conference finals; several and many of the students who played under Hangs' guidance went on to receive scholarships at four-year universities such as UCLA and Occidental College.

"I'm excited," said freshman forward Richelle Najero. "She's a new coach with high expectations and she's pushing us hard, so I think we're going to do great this season. She will get a lot out of the team."

Hang's reputation for success precedes her. Perhaps a new coach, a new season, and a few new players are a recipe for success.



RICARDO VARELA | VALLEY STAR
HITTING IT HARD - Defensive lineman hit the sleds last week in practice.

FENWICK AND COMPANY

Coach Fenwick, back for his second year after a lengthy hiatus, looks forward to the season ahead.

NARINE PETROSYAN
STAFF WRITER

Scoring touchdowns since 1951, the Valley College football team started off the season, experiencing both sides of the scoreboard, with a 28-21 win against East Los Angeles College and 21-19 loss against College of the Desert.

The monarchs have made it to eight bowl games, six of which they won, and by the look of things so far; there may be more victories to come.

With 36 years of coaching experience, Head Coach Jim Fenwick is enthusiastic about training his team physically as well as academically, after returning last year from his 1997-2008 hiatus.

"What I like about Coach Fenwick is his ability to have an open mind and take in the opinions of the players into consideration when making a decision," Monarch linebacker Miguel Muno said.

With coaching experience at campuses such as, University of Mexico, Eastern Oregon University, Occidental College, and Miami University, there will be no doubt in Fenwick's coaching experience.

"We needed him," Valley Sports Information Director Dale Beck said. Fenwick is respected amongst students and staff.

Practices are held every weekday, which include weight training, watching films, and team meetings. Working together as a team is key on and off the field. Fenwick explains, "What they do has an impact on their teammates."

Showing up to practice however, is not enough to make the team. All members of Valley Athletics are required to be full-time students (12 units) with a minimum GPA of a 2.0.

Fenwick wants all of his players to have a concrete education in order to fulfill their goals of transferring to a four-year school.

Making sure that his team is on track at school as well as on the field is a must. They are provided with the equipment and coaching, but the results are up to them.

Mostly made up of freshman, it is a fairly new team of Monarchs, but a close knit one.

"My favorite thing is hanging out with all the players," says sophomore receiver Kevin Kreppel. According to Fenwick the team is improving each week and is eager to advance.

"They're young, they're motivated," says Athletic Director Diedra Stark with a smile.

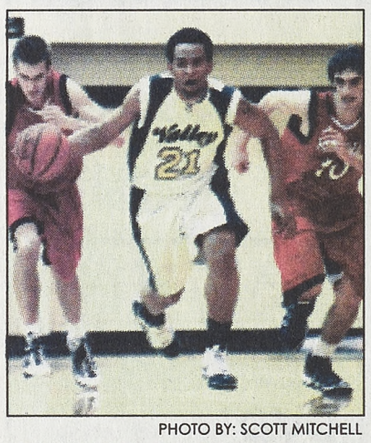


PHOTO BY: SCOTT MITCHELL
KEEPING THE FAITH - THE MONARCHS PREPARE FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON.

FAITH IN THE ROOKIES

As the basketball season approaches, Virgil Watson and company look forward.

MICHAEL MKERCHYAN
STAFF WRITER

With strong faith in his players, Head Basketall Coach Virgil Watson is confident his fresh squad will succeed in the new season.

"We're hoping for a fourth straight playoff appearance and a chance to fight for the Western State Conference championship," said Coach Watson. "We're excited about the talent and character of the guys coming in here."

Having made the playoffs last season, the team has an added drive to repeat their accomplishments. Support at the core, and well-rounded players are an essential element of success for the Monarchs.

The old saying, "players don't care what you know until they know that you care," is something Watson lives by. Other officials at Valley College recognize this similar way in which Coach Watson cares for his players.

Diedra Stark, Valley athletic director spoke of the coach, saying, "Mr. Watson stresses that the athletes do very well in the classroom, as well as on the court."

When asked about what he thinks of the Monarch men's basketball team, Valley student Gevork Takmizyan said, "they are mostly good, but they just need to work more on their offense, and some defense."

Despite losing the playoffs last year, Coach Watson and his team begin anew with a clean slate and will give it their best shot in this new basketball season.

SKILLS, PILLS AND POWDERS

There's a fine line between the competitive drive to win and a competitive edge.

ANTWONE MERCER
STAFF WRITER

The Foundation of Medical Education and research indicate that creatine may provide some athletic advantages by producing small gains in short-term bursts of power. For some athletes winning by any means necessary includes taking performance-enhancing supplements or drugs. Some common legal supplements among college athletes are protein shakes, fat burners, and creatine monohydrate. Creatine is a naturally occurring organic acid produced by the body that helps the muscles produce energy.

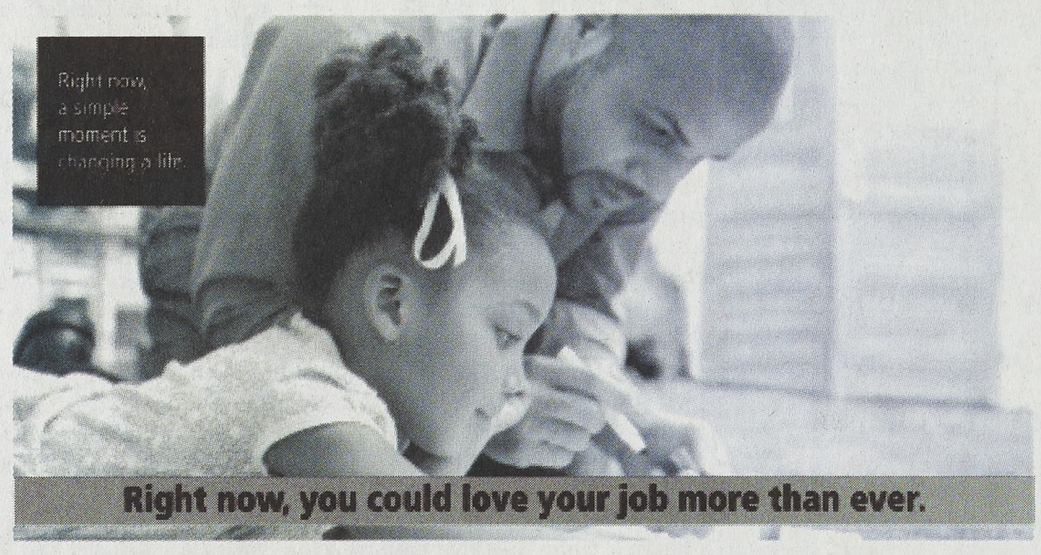
Due to the fact that supplements are considered "food supplements" and not drugs by the Food and Drug Administration, supplement manufacturers are not required to comply with fixed standards, regulations or requirements, according to the FDA.

"Eating balanced meals and staying hydrated, athletes will get all the nutrients they need," said Valley College Defensive Coordinator Leon Criner. Criner also stated that creatine is harmless and could help retain water weight and restore muscles.

Twenty-four year Athletics Trainer Dennis Mestas promotes good healthy eating habits. Going on his third season at Valley, Mestas believes his job as a college athletic trainer is to make sure athletes are taking proper supplements and not illegal ones. "I definitely recommend sport supplements after long strenuous work outs, as long as they're legal," said Mestas.

Mestas also stressed the benefits of sport supplements claiming, "torn muscle tissue can be rebuilt and they can also help circulate more adenosine triphosphate, which stores and transports energy in cells, used for quick, explosive boost of activity, as in weight-lifting or sprinting."

Read the rest online at lavalleystar.com



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MONARCH SCHEDULES

Football:
Saturday,September 18th
@ Pasadena 6 p.m.
Saturday, September 25th
vs. San Diego Mesa
@ Valley 6 p.m.
Saturday, October 2nd
@ Glendale 6 p.m.

Cross Country:
Saturday,September 18th
Fresno Invitational
@ Woodward Park 8:30 a.m.
Friday, September 24th
WSC Prelims
@ College Park,
Oxnard 3 p.m.

Men's Water Polo
Thursday, September 16th
vs. Cerritos
@ Valley 2 p.m.
Friday/Saturday
September, 17th/18th
Mt. SAC Tourney
@ Mt. SAC TBA

Women's Water Polo
Saturday, September 18th
El Camino Mini-Tournament
@ El Camino TBA

ANALYZE THIS

THE GREAT DISAPEARING ACT OF USC

After recent sanctions were handed down to USC some speculate the effect they will have on those at fault.

LUCAS THOMPSON



It all makes sense now. Pete Carroll's decision to leave the sandy beaches, beautiful women and the seemingly never ending national titles at USC, for a head coaching position in the enchanting and overtly precipitous city of Seattle. Well, it has always made sense to leave if you knew what was coming.

The recent sanctions brought down on USC after a four-year investigation by the NCAA came as no surprise to Carroll. The university is being penalized for a variety of improper benefits given to star USC running back Reggie Bush and basketball guard O.J. Mayo, according to NBC news.

The penalties include a loss of 30 scholarships over the next three years, termination of 14 victories (games in which Bush was considered to be ineligible), and a two-year period suspension on any bowl game appearances for USC.

"I'm absolutely shocked and disappointed in the findings of the NCAA," Carroll said in a video statement produced by the NFL's Seattle Seahawks. "I never thought it would come to this."

Apparently ole Pete and former USC Head Basketball Coach Tim Floyd were so shocked that one decided to take the coaching position of a team that has seen one Super Bowl appearance over the last 30 years, while the other transferred to University of Texas El Paso … guess these guys like a challenge.

The school has decided to be proactive in removing all references that related to Bush.

In doing so the University has removed the No. 5 jersey from the coliseum and Heritage Hall along with the school's copy of Bush's Heisman trophy. Bush also returned his trophy due to speculation he was ineligible to receive the award by the Heisman Trust.

"I've said all I want to say, and everything else has to play itself out. It's an unfortunate situation for everybody, including the kids at USC," Bush said in a recent LA Times article.

It is unfortunate for the upcoming talents who have been recruited under the ruse of success, education and good moral standing. The clear indecision by the NCAA on what the punishment shall be and most importantly how insignificant the punishments are to those who broke the rules.

Taking Bush's name from the campus and stripping him of his Heisman will do nothing. Reggie Bush, little man statue on his nightstand or not, will always be remembered as the Heisman winner.

Furthermore, the upcoming suspension of bowl game appearances for future classes at USC really hammers down a proper message to those considering taking money from third party sources: Make sure you graduate or take another job offer before they catch you.

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